

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /084 W

-----017783 090405Z /64

R 081511Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6902

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0451

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: VIEWS OF FEDERAL PARTY OFFICIAL

REF: CAPE TOWN 432,

1. SUMMARY: FEDERAL PARTY OFFICIAL REPORTS NNF GAINING STRENGTH. MOST INTERNAL GROUPS, HE REPORTS, TOLD ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL THEY OPPOSE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. JOHN KIRKPATRICK, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE SMALL LIBERAL FEDERAL PARTY, CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR MARCH 7 THAT THE FEDERAL PARTY WOULD OFFICIALLY JOIN THE NAMIBIAN NATIONAL FRONT ON MARCH 9. KIRKPATRICK INDICATED HE WAS BUSY ATTEMPTING TO SOLICIT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
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EXPANDED NNF. HE SAID HE HAD HAD PROMISES OF SIZEABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TWO POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS IN CAPE TOWN ON THE CONDITION THAT THE FEDERAL PARTY WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROL OF THE FUNDS. KIRKPATRICK, WHO IS A DIRECTOR OF RIO TINTO'S URANIUM OPERATION IN NAMIBIA, ROSSING MINE, SAID THAT ROSSING POLICY WOULD BE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO ALL PARTIES. ANGLO-AMERICAN, HE SAID, IS SOLIDLY BEHIND THE DEMOCRATIC

TURHALLE ALLIANCE. IN ADDITION TO MONEY PROBLEMS, KIRKPATRICK SAID, THE NNF HAS SERIOUS ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS AND HE THOUGHT THIS WAS ANOTHER AREA IN WHICH THE FEDERAL PARTY COULD BE OF MAJOR ASSISTANCE. KIRKPATRICK ALSO PREDICTED THAT BISHOP DE VRIES WOULD SUPPORT THE NNF.

3. KIRKPATRICK SAID THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES BELIEVE THAT IN A UN-SUPERVISED ELECTION, THE NNF COULD HOLD THE BALANCE BETWEEN SWAPO AND THE DTA. THE NNF, HE BELIEVED, WOULD TAKE THE MAJORITY OF THE DAMARA AND COLORED VOTE AND A SIZEABLE PERCENTAGE OF THE HERERO AND BASTER VOTE. THE FEDERAL PARTY, HE SAID, HAD RECEIVED 30 PERCENT OF THE WHITE VOTE IN THE 1974 ELECTION TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, BUT WITH THE SPLIT IN THE NATIONAL PARTY, KIRK MUDGE WOULD TAKE SOME OF THE LIBERAL WHITE VOTE AWAY FROM THE FEDERAL PARTY.

4. KIRKPATRICK SAID THAT THE MAIN IMPRESSION WHICH THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL WOULD HAVE GAINED FROM HIS SOUNDING OF ALL POLITICAL GROUPS IN SOUTH WEST WAS OPPOSITION TO AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. IF, HOWEVER, THE INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN AND THE SAG PROCEEDED WITH AN ELECTION FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, THE NNF POSITION, KIRKPATRICK BELIEVED, WOULD DEPEND UPON THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THIS OCCURRED AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH A GENUINELY FREE AND IMPARTIAL ELECTION SEEMED TO BE A REALITY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Executive Order:** GS  
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